

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A textured airlaid fibrous web comprising natural fibers, synthetic fibers, or mixtures thereof, said airlaid web being formed on a three-dimensional fabric under sufficient force to cause the web to conform to the surface of the fabric, the textured web including a
5 repeating pattern of peaks and valleys, the textured web having a height that is at least 25% greater than the average caliper of the web, the airlaid web being bonded together.
2. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the airlaid web is thermally bonded together.
3. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 2, wherein the web contains binder fibers that thermally bond the web together.
4. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web is bonded together by applying an adhesive to the surfaces of the web.
5. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web is bonded together thermally and through the use of an adhesive.
6. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the peaks contained within the repeating pattern have a higher density than the valleys.
7. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 6, wherein the density of the peaks is at least 25% greater than the density of the valleys.
8. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web has a basis weight of from about 40 gsm to about 1500 gsm.
9. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web includes at least 1 peak per inch in one direction of the web.
10. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web includes at least 5 peaks per inch in one direction of the web.
11. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web includes at least 10 peaks per inch in one direction of the web.

12. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the peaks are present in at least two directions on the web, the peaks being present in an amount of at least 2 peaks per square inch.

13. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 12, wherein the peaks are present in an amount of at least 9 peaks per square inch.

14. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web has a surface area that is at least 50% greater than the surface area of a planar web made from the same fibers at the same basis weight.

15. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web has a surface area that is at least 100% greater than the surface area of a planar web made from the same fibers at the same basis weight.

16. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web is further contoured to have a preselected overall shape.

17. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web includes a first surface and a second and opposite surface, the first surface defining the pattern of peaks and valleys, the second surface comprising a substantially planar surface.

18. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web includes a first surface and a second surface, the first surface including a first pattern of peaks and valleys, the second surface including a second pattern of peaks and valleys.

19. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the airlaid web is multi-layered.

20. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, wherein the textured web has a height that is at least 50% greater than the average caliper of the web.

21. A medical absorbent product containing the textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1.

22. A diaper containing the textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1.

23. A feminine hygiene product containing the textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1.

24. An adult incontinence product containing the textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1.

25. A wiper product containing the textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1.

26. A training pant containing the textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1.

27. A textured airlaid web as defined in claim 1, further containing an additive selected from the group consisting of a super-absorbent material, an odor absorbent material, a scented material, an anti-microbial agent, and mixtures thereof.

28. An airlaid fibrous web comprising at least one textured surface, the textured surface including peak areas and valley areas, the peak areas and the valley areas forming a repeating pattern on the surface of the web, the airlaid web having a height that is at least 25% greater than the average caliper of the web, the web including at least one peak area per inch in one direction of the web, the airlaid web being bonded together.

29. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the textured surface is formed on a fabric having a three-dimensional surface under sufficient force to cause the web to conform to the three-dimensional surface of the fabric.

30. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the airlaid web is thermally bonded together.

31. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the web is bonded together by applying an adhesive to the surfaces of the web.

32. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the peak areas have a first density and the valley areas have a second

density, the first density being at least 25% greater than the second density.

33. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the web includes at least 3 peak areas per inch in one direction of the web.

34. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the web includes at least 5 peak areas per inch in one direction of the web.

35. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the peak areas are present in at least two directions on the web, the peak areas being present in an amount of at least 2 peaks per square inch.

36. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the
5 peak areas are present in at least two directions on the web, the peak areas being present in an amount of at least 9 peaks per square inch.

37. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the textured surface has a surface area that is at least 50% greater than the surface area of a planar web having the same basis weight.

38. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the textured surface has a surface area that is at least 200% greater than the surface area of a planar web having the same basis weight.

39. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, further containing an additive selected from the group consisting of a super-absorbent material, an odor absorbent material, a scented material, an anti-microbial agent, and mixtures thereof.

40. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the web includes a substantially planar surface opposite the textured surface.

41. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the airlaid web has a height that is at least 50% greater than the average caliper of the web.

42. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the airlaid web has a height that is at least 100% greater than the average caliper of the web.

43. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the textured surface has a surface area that is at least 400% greater than the surface area of a planar web having the same basis weight.

44. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the airlaid web has a height that is at least 100% greater than the average caliper of the web.

45. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the web consists essentially of synthetic fibers.

46. An airlaid fibrous web as defined in claim 28, wherein the peak areas have a first density and the valley areas have a second density, the first density being at least 100% greater than the second density.

47. A textured airlaid fibrous web comprising natural fibers, synthetic fibers, or mixtures thereof, the airlaid web being formed on a three dimensional fabric under sufficient force to cause the web to conform to the surface of the fabric, the web including a textured surface having a repeating pattern of peak areas and valley areas, the airlaid web having a height that is at least 25% greater than the average caliper of the web, the web including at least 5 peak areas per inch in one direction of the web and including at least 9 peak areas per square inch, the airlaid web being bonded together, the airlaid web having a basis weight of at least 40 gsm.